

Docket's Management Branch (HFA85)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

2642/9/99 14 P1:58

RE: Docket #'s: 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

To Whom It May Concern:

Every year the US Egg Industry force molts, ie. intentionally starves for up to 14 days, millions of hens to manipulate egg production. If you are unaware, forced molting is very stressful to the hen's immune system and predisposes the birds and its eggs to *Salmonella* infection. The US Department of Agriculture's Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS) once stated, "FSIS recognizes that public health concern and raised by highly stressful forced molting practices lead to increased shedding of *Salmonella enteritidis* (Se) by laying hens subjected to these practices."

I am writing you to end this inhumane torture and compromising of health safety, since the FDA has the jurisdiction to ban farm practices that injure human health. Therefore, I'm pleading you to ban forced molting.

Sincerely,

Lauren B. Burkurt

Lauren Burkurt
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Pittsburgh, PA

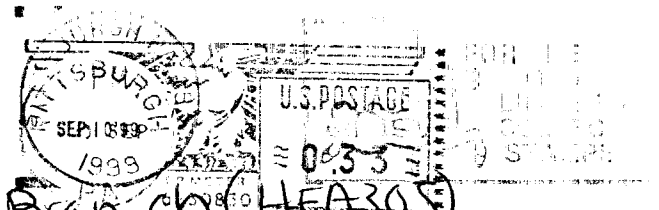
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C546

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C547
96P-0418/C546

DoCKeT's Management Branch (HEA305)
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